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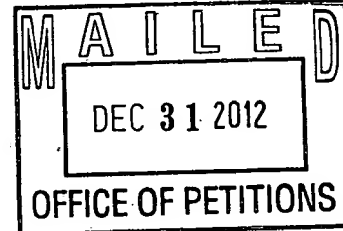
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In re Patent No. 5,974,957  
Issued: November 2, 1999  
Application No. 09/182,732  
Filed: October 29, 1998  
Attorney Docket No. 97-0831

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed October 22, 2012, to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired on November 3, 2011 for failure to pay the eleven and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-7751.

/Joan Olszewski/  
Joan Olszewski  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions